

IN THE CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. A system for emulating an operating environment via removable media, comprising:

5 a first interface to a media reader, the media reader configured to access a removable media recording a set of operating environment variables of a first machine;

a processor, the processor communicating with the first interface, the processor processing the set of operating environment variables to emulate an operating environment of the first machine on a second machine.

10 2. The system of claim 1, wherein the removable media comprises at least one of recordable optical media, recordable magnetic media, and recordable solid state media.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the set of operating environment variables comprises settings for an operating system.

15 4. The system of claim 3, wherein the set of operating environment variables comprises at least one of desktop pixel size, color depth, wallpaper, icon set, font settings, task bar placement, mouse settings, screen savers, power options, keyboard settings, time settings, files and directory structure, network settings, password settings, printer settings, audio defaults, browser settings, file associations and backup settings.

20 5. The system of claim 3, wherein an operating system of the first machine is source code-compatible with an operating system of the second machine.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the emulation performed by the processor is executed by at least one of autoexecution upon insertion of the removable media and selective activation by a user.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the first machine and the second machine
5 each comprise at least one of a desktop computer, a desktop workstation, a portable computer and a network-enabled wireless device.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein the processor executes a data file synchronization between the first machine and the second machine.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein the processor restores a second set of
10 environmental operating variables for configuration of the second machine upon termination of the emulation.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein the processor executes a best match routine for the set of environmental operating variables to match a configuration of the second machine to the set of environmental operating variables.

11. A method for emulating an operating environment via removable media,
15 comprising:

a) accessing a removable media recording a set of operating environment variables of a first machine; and

b) processing the set of operating environment variables to emulate an operating
20 environment of the first machine on a second machine.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the removable media comprises at least one of recordable optical media, recordable magnetic media, and recordable solid state media.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the set of operating environment variables comprises settings for an operating system.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the set of operating environment variables comprises at least one of desktop pixel size, color depth, wallpaper, icon set,
5 font settings, task bar placement, mouse settings, screen savers, power options, keyboard settings, time settings, files and directory structure, network settings, password settings, printer settings, audio defaults, browser settings, file associations and backup settings.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein an operating system of the first machine is source code-compatible with an operating system of the second machine.

10 16. The method of claim 11, further comprising a step of c) executing at least one of autoexecution of the emulation upon insertion of the removable media and selective activation of the emulation by a user.

15 17. The method of claim 11, wherein the first machine and the second machine each comprise at least one of a desktop computer, a desktop workstation, a portable computer and a network-enabled wireless device.

18. The method of claim 11, further comprising a step of d) executing a data file synchronization between the first machine and the second machine.

19. The method of claim 11, further comprising a step of e) restoring a second set of environmental operating variables for configuration of the second machine upon
20 termination of the emulation.

20. The method of claim 11, further comprising a step of f) executing a best match routine for the set of environmental operating variables to match a configuration of the second machine to the set of environmental operating variables

21. A removable media, the removable media storing code executable to perform a method for emulating an operating environment via removable media, the method comprising:

- a) accessing the removable media, the removable media recording a set of operating environment variables of a first machine; and
- b) processing the set of operating environment variables to emulate an operating environment of the first machine on a second machine.

22. The removable media of claim 21, wherein the removable media comprises at least one of recordable optical media, recordable magnetic media, and recordable solid state media.

23. The removable media of claim 21, wherein the set of operating environment variables comprises settings for an operating system.

24. The removable media of claim 23, wherein the set of operating environment variables comprises at least one of desktop pixel size, color depth, wallpaper, icon set, font settings, task bar placement, mouse settings, screen savers, power options, keyboard settings, time settings, files and directory structure, network settings, password settings, printer settings, audio defaults, browser settings, file associations and backup settings.

25. The removable media of claim 23, wherein an operating system of the first machine is source code-compatible with an operating system of the second machine.

26. The removable media of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises a step of c) executing at least one of autoexecution of the emulation upon insertion of the removable media and selective activation of the emulation by a user.

27. The removable media of claim 21, wherein the first machine and the second machine each comprise at least one of a desktop computer, a desktop workstation, a portable computer and a network-enabled wireless device.

28. The removable media of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises
5 a step of d) executing a data file synchronization between the first machine and the second machine.

29. The removable media of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises a step of e) restoring a second set of environmental operating variables for configuration of the second machine upon termination of the emulation.

10 30. The removable media of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises a step of f) executing a best match routine for the set of environmental operating variables to match a configuration of the second machine to the set of environmental operating.